

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF JUNIOR SEAU'S PASSING

**HON. MIKE LEVIN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2022*

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary life of Junior Seau, who tragically passed away on May 2, 2012, in Oceanside, California. In honor of the 10th Anniversary of his passing, I would like to pay tribute to this incredible man and reflect on the life he led and the impact he had on our Nation and community in the 49th District.

Junior Seau was a born leader who inspired everyone he encountered. He was a football icon who paved the way for future generations of Samoan youth and was a generous philanthropist and humanitarian. Junior is survived by his parents, wife, children, siblings, and extended family.

Junior Seau was born Tiaina Baul Seau, Jr. in San Diego, California on January 19, 1969. His parents, Tiaina Seau, Sr. and Luisa Mauga Seau, came to San Diego from American Samoa. Junior spent several years in America Samoa during his youth before returning to Oceanside.

He attended Oceanside High School where he developed his exceptional athletic abilities. While known for his contributions to the Oceanside High football program, Junior also lettered in basketball and track and field. As a starting linebacker and tight end for the varsity football team, he demonstrated his athletic prowess. During his senior year in 1987, Parade Magazine selected him for the high school All-American team. Junior is one of the greatest athletes our community has ever produced and in 2014, Oceanside High School honored Junior with an on-field tribute where they retired his number 11 jersey.

His academic and athletic achievements earned him admission to the University of Southern California where he played for the Trojans from 1987 to 1990 before being drafted to the National Football League. His USC career took off in 1989, and this season was one of the best in USC's distinguished defensive history, earning him the title of Pac-10 Defensive Player of the Year. Junior's legacy lives on at USC, as wearing his No. 55 jersey is now an honor bestowed upon those who follow in his footsteps. Junior was inducted into the University's Hall of Fame in 2009.

The San Diego Chargers drafted Junior Seau in the first round of the NFL Draft, as the 5th overall pick in 1990. He quickly became the heart and soul of the Chargers' defense and led the Chargers to their first and only Super Bowl appearance four years later. He was voted the Chargers' Most Inspirational Player in 1997 and again in 2002. These recognitions exemplify Junior's ability to inspire and motivate his teammates and demonstrates the role he played on the team.

Junior went on to play 20 seasons in the NFL, 13 with the Chargers, three with the Miami Dolphins, and finished his career in New England with the Patriots. In all, he totaled 1,849 tackles, 56.5 sacks, and 18 interceptions. Junior was named the NFL Defensive Player of the Year in 1992 and 1998, the Chargers' Most Valuable Player six times, and was named to the NFL's All-Decade Team of the 1990s. He is widely considered one of the best linebackers in NFL history.

While his contributions to sports history are numerous, Junior's leadership extended beyond the gridiron. Junior Seau was a passionate humanitarian who cared deeply about giving back to his community. He established the Junior Seau Foundation in 1992 to support San Diego youth, and the Foundation has since given more than \$5 million to community organizations. In 2015, the Foundation donated \$500,000 to Rady Children's North Coastal Center in Oceanside which enabled the expansion of pediatric urgent care and specialty services. In 2016, the organization gave \$250,000 to UC San Diego to support brain injury research and education. The Junior Seau Foundation has also provided scholarships and gifts to underprivileged children throughout the region.

Madam Speaker, Junior Seau was an exceptional individual, and I am honored to share part of his story today. To his family, friends, and all who knew him, supported him, and cheered for him over the years, I share in the celebration of his life at the 10th Anniversary of his passing.

Junior was a light in our community, and we miss him. His legacy lives on and will never be forgotten.

### COMMEMORATING THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF GRANITE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2022*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and lasting contributions of Robert Ikeda. Robert Kimihiko "Bob" Ikeda, born July 5, 1934, in the Japanese-American fishing community of Terminal Island in Los Angeles County, CA to Kameichi and Hayako (Yuoka) Ikeda, passed away on November 24, 2020. He was preceded in death by his eldest son, Patrick Ikeda, sister Sumiko "Sumy," and brother-in-law Don Anhorn. He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Gladys, whom he met while they both attended UC Berkeley. Other survivors include son Steve and daughter-in-law Kathy Ikeda, grandchildren Justin and Andrea, daughter-in-law Terrilynne Ikeda, step-grandchildren Calvin and Samantha, sister Shizuka "Margaret" Kono and husband Ryoichiro, brother Nobuhiko "Noby" Ikeda and wife Susie, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Bob—a U.S. born citizen—was incarcerated as an "enemy non-alien" at the age of seven in 1942, along with the rest of his family and 120,000 other Japanese and Japanese Americans who had been living along the west coast. They remained confined under military armed guard for the duration of World War II, first at Jerome and Rohwer in Arkansas, and then at Tule Lake Segregation Center in California. The Ikeda family settled outside Lodi after their release in early 1946. He attended area schools and graduated from Lodi High School.

Bob was a veteran of the United States Army and was proud to receive a Top-Secret security clearance as a soldier, which came from the same government that wrongly deemed him a national security risk during his childhood. When he was stationed in Germany, he used that clearance while analyzing aerial intelligence photos taken during the Cold War, some of which were among the first taken by the U2 spy plane.

After being honorably discharged from the Army, Bob resumed his career with the Department of Public Works, Division of Highways (which became Caltrans), where he was the State's first licensed traffic engineer. He spent his 42-year career with the Caltrans Stockton office, at first on construction crews, and later in Traffic Management. As the Chief of Traffic Management, Bob was the de facto traffic engineer for numerous smaller cities throughout the district.

While he was incarcerated at Tule Lake, Bob began studying judo, a sport he later introduced to his sons. He eventually was promoted by the United States Judo Federation to third-degree black belt and spent several years teaching an afternoon judo program at Stockton Judo Club.

Bob had a lifelong passion for cars, starting even before he received his first junior operator permit at age 12. He purchased his first Porsche in 1961 and owned several throughout his life; he even put a Porsche engine in a Volkswagen bus. He shared his passion for cars with Clyde Wilbourn, who came into his life as his mechanic, but soon became a valued and long-time friend. Bob enjoyed autocrossing and rallying competitively as well as taking cross-country driving vacations and meandering drives to destinations unknown even to him. His connection to Porsche was strengthened by his lifelong membership in the Porsche Club of America.

Although Bob lost his appetite toward the end, anyone who knows him will not be surprised by his last meal: a bowl of vanilla ice cream with a dollop of whipped cream.

The family plans a post-pandemic memorial observance. Donations in Bob's memory may be made to the Tule Lake Committee, the Stockton/San Joaquin Emergency Food Bank, St. Mary's Dining Room, or a charity of choice.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

RECOGNIZING JOE MAYER'S LIFE-TIME COMMITMENT TO ADVANCING AMERICA'S SECURITY AND HIS ADVOCACY FOR AMERICA'S MISSION IN SPACE

**HON. BILL POSEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2022*

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize a constituent from Florida's Space Coast who has dedicated his career to advancing the strategic security of our nation and strengthening America's technological capability, and who has been a well-known and passionate advocate of our mission in space—Mr. Joe Mayer.

In 1976, Joe graduated from William Paterson College in New Jersey, then attended Georgetown University, and earned a Master of Science of Foreign Service degree focusing on national security. He got his start working on Capitol Hill as an aide to U.S. Senator Jake Garn of Utah, advising on defense and national security issues and helping to support the B-1B strategic bomber as well as funding for the Strategic Defense Initiative. Joe then went on to serve on the staff of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence focusing on arms control.

In 1986, Joe joined Rockwell International taking the lead on Rockwell's NASA space-related business. He worked to modernize the Space Shuttle program and became a leading advocate for the International Space Station. Joe later worked for The Boeing Company supporting their human space exploration efforts. He became the Chair of Citizens for Space Exploration, a pro-NASA, pro-space advocacy organization, received a NASA Space Flight Awareness award from the Boeing leadership team, and was named an Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

In 2007 Joe joined the Lockheed Martin Space team in Houston representing the company in the community and advocating on behalf of the Crew Exploration Vehicle (CEV)/Orion spacecraft. He worked with community partners and traveled across the country meeting with the public, school children, community leaders and elected officials explaining the value of human space exploration. The Houston Mayor and City Council honored Joe for his professional and community contributions with a Declaration designating February 26, 2013, as 'Joe Mayer Day in the City of Houston'.

In 2013 Lockheed Martin dispatched Joe to Florida's Space Coast where he has served the space community in numerous civic and charitable positions and has been a leading voice for our nation's space program. Joe's local leadership roles have included Chairing the board of the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast, Chairing the Cocoa Beach Chamber as well as Chair of VISIT Florida and Space Coast Citizens for Space Exploration. He has served on the Boards of Brevard Cultural Alliance, Florida Defense Contractors Association, the Astronaut Memorial Foundation, and the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation. He is a member of the Space Coast Civilian-Military Association and serves on my Congressional Space Advisory Committee.

After more than 40 years of service, Joe recently announced his plans to retire, and we thank him for his tireless service and commitment to our communities, and for his strong advocacy and support for our nation's space program. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Joe Mayer and wishing him and his family well in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING DR. KEVIN MCCARTHY, PRESIDENT OF RENTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2022*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dr. Kevin McCarthy on his retirement from Renton Technical College. He has served many years as an educator and as a leader in our community.

Kevin has continually demonstrated his commitment to education. He brought his talents to the Pacific Northwest where he served as vice president of instruction at the Lake Washington Institute of Technology, dean of the Health Sciences, Education & Wellness Institute at Bellevue College, and associate vice president of instruction at Blue Mountain Community College prior to joining Renton Technical College.

Kevin is well known throughout the community as the president of Renton Technical College. He has served as a strong and passionate leader in this role since 2015. Kevin has always emphasized the importance of inclusion and prioritized equitable access to education during his time as president. His focus on equity goes beyond the classroom. Kevin serves the community as part of the Puget Sound Coalition for College & Career Readiness and as a member of the Renton Mayor's Inclusion Task Force.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely thank and commend Dr. Kevin McCarthy for the tireless work he's done to educate and support learners in the Puget Sound region. I congratulate him and wish him a happy retirement.

HONORING DOCTOR JOEL STUART BLOOM AS A DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR IN NEW JERSEY

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2022*

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Joel Stuart Bloom upon his retirement as the eighth President of the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT).

As a premier public university, NJIT plays a crucial role in shaping the economic trajectory of our state. It is also a school with the highest student mobility and, therefore, exemplifies the American Dream. I recall attending President Bloom's inauguration in 2012 when I served as the President of Newark's Municipal Council. At the ceremony, I voiced my optimism that the university would flourish under President Bloom's vision and forward-thinking ideas.

As he now steps down and begins the next chapter of his life, I can confidently express

my pride in President Bloom's leadership. Under his leadership, the school accomplished numerous significant feats, including a two-fold increase in enrollment, the expansion of research, the improvement of minority students' access to STEM education, and the formation of numerous commercial and industry partnerships. His notable contributions will leave a long-lasting imprint for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in expressing gratitude to President Bloom for his esteemed commitment to the growth and development of NJIT, the city of Newark, and our great Nation.

RECOGNIZING PATRICK MALONE

**HON. JAMES A. HIMES**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2022*

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute and offer my gratitude to my departing Deputy Chief of Staff and Communications Director, Patrick Malone, as he departs government service for other opportunities.

Patrick has faithfully served as a staffer in the House of Representatives for more than a decade, acting to preserve the values enshrined in the Constitution and striving to expand rights for all Americans.

During his tenure, Patrick has helped give voice to those who are too often left out of the conversation: victims of gun violence, domestic abuse, and hate crimes. I know that as his career advances he will find ways to advocate for these causes and many others in whatever way he can. Most especially, he has done all of this with care, good humor and with a commitment to mentoring others committed to public service.

As he leaves, I wish the best for Patrick, his wife, Cindy, and sons, Ronan and Seamus. I am proud to convey my thanks for his service.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF JOHN HEUBUSCH

**HON. MIKE GARCIA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2022*

Mr. GARCIA of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement and commend the service of John Heubusch, an individual who has spent decades in both the private and public sector and who, for the past 13 years, has played a pivotal role in the growth and revitalization of one of the jewels of our nation: the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library. After guiding this prestigious institution through the challenges of the past decade, he will be enjoying his well-deserved retirement.

A native of our nation's capital, John Heubusch spent his college years in the D.C.-Maryland-Virginia area studying political science and receiving a master's degree in National Security Studies from Georgetown University. John started his career in public service nearly forty years ago working as an analyst for the Department of the Air Force. He soon moved to Capitol Hill, serving as a staffer for Congressman Denny Smith, where he quickly ascended the ranks to become his

Chief of Staff and working directly with Congressman Smith to trim down wasteful Department of Defense spending and maximize the efficiency and the safety of the military under the Reagan administration. Under the Bush administration, John served as the Chief of Staff to Secretary of Labor Elizabeth Dole before becoming the Vice President of Communications of the American Red Cross, one of the largest and oldest non-profit humanitarian organizations in the world. In these roles, from the Pentagon to Capitol Hill, to the Red Cross, John embodied what it means to serve one's country and be a faithful advocate for the greater good.

After impressive stints in the campaign and corporate worlds, John was personally selected by former First Lady Nancy Reagan and the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute Board of Trustees to serve as Executive Director. In this role John led this organization, which oversees the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, into a new era of success and fostered renewed respect for President Reagan's legacy. Under his leadership, the Reagan Foundation championed the same values that President Reagan embodied, including charity, private goodwill, and free enterprise. Additionally, the Reagan Library under John educated a new generation of Americans about the life, presidency, and ideals of President Reagan. Leaving the Reagan Foundation with a historic \$250 million endowment as he enters the next chapter of his life, John has provided an invaluable service to our community and our nation, as the Reagan Foundation, Institute, and Library remains well equipped to face the years ahead and continue their critical mission in preserving the legacy of one of our greatest presidents.

I cannot commend John Heubusch enough for his service to California's 25th District and the Nation. We thank him for his stewardship of President Reagan's legacy, and while we will miss him, his retirement and the opportunity to—spend—more time with friends and loved ones is certainly deserved after a long and successful career.

#### TRIBUTE TO DREW TROJANOWSKI

### HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2022*

Mr. KINZINGER. Madam Speaker, today I wish to recognize the service and career of Drew Trojanowski, who has a long record of service to National Security and our Nation's veterans.

Mr. Trojanowski served in the U.S. Army from 2006 to 2015, most notably as a sniper. Mr. Trojanowski deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan in support of the Global War on Terrorism; also serving as a combat advisor to a foreign military in the realms of operations, tactics, intelligence, and civil affairs. He concluded his military career serving in the Arizona Army National Guard, where he helped develop long-range plans for the Joint Counter Narco-Terrorism Task Force.

Mr. Trojanowski began serving veterans in 2015, after returning from Afghanistan, at the Mesa Chamber of Commerce; he established the Mesa Veterans Program and Mesa Indus-

try and Defense Council, a consortium of more than 70 aerospace and defense companies.

Mr. Trojanowski's career with U.S. Senator John McCain initiated in 2016 as a military and veteran advocate, where traveled throughout Arizona interfacing with veterans, DoD installations and personnel and industry.

In December of 2016, Senator McCain asked Mr. Trojanowski to be his Military Legislative Assistant and senior policy advisor. In that role, he was at the forefront of advocating for reform, resources, funding, and benefits that our military and veterans earned and deserve.

During his time with Senator McCain, Mr. Trojanowski helped champion the writing and passage of significant legislation impacting American servicemembers families and veterans. These include the VA Mission Act, National Defense Authorization Act, the VA Appeals Modernization Act, the VA Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act, the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act—also known as the Forever G.I. Bill—and the Veteran Overmedication and Prevention Act. These bipartisan bills, all of which were signed into law, serve as Mr. Trojanowski's dedication and leadership on behalf of the military and veterans.

In 2018, Mr. Trojanowski joined the White House as a Presidentially Commissioned Officer and Special Assistant to the President on the Domestic Policy Council. In this role he oversaw the Departments of Veteran Affairs, Defense, NASA and Labor. During his tenure, Mr. Trojanowski was the policy lead on three executive orders and 56 regulations, including the implementation MISSION Act and the PREVENTS initiative.

It is my honor to recognize Mr. Trojanowski's outstanding military service and continued service to our military, veterans, and their families. As Mr. Trojanowski begins a new chapter, I have no doubt that he will continue to be a voice for all those who serve.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS AND PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS ACT

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2022*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Courts and Public Defender Service Voluntary Separation Incentive Payments Act. This bill, which passed the House in the 114th Congress, would make a small but important change to the authorities of the District of Columbia Courts (D.C. Courts) and the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia (PDS), giving them the same authority federal agencies and federal courts already have to offer voluntary separation incentive payments, or buyouts, to their employees.

Congress has provided this authority to the D.C. Courts and PDS on an annual basis in the last several appropriations bills. However, my bill is necessary to make this authority permanent. This authority would allow the D.C. Courts and PDS to respond to future administrative and budgetary needs, and would pro-

vide the flexibility to extend buyout offers to their employees.

The U.S. Government Accountability Office has opined that voluntary separation incentive payments may be made only where statutorily authorized. Federal agencies and federal courts already have permanent statutory authority to offer buyouts, and there is no reason why the D.C. Courts and PDS, which are both federally funded entities, should not have the same permanent authority to manage their workforce as budget conditions and needs change.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

#### REMEMBERING LUKE WILLIAM ALBRIGHT

### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2022*

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Luke William Albright, who passed away on Friday, June 17, 2022, at the young age of 11.

A resident of Bay Village, Luke was born on April 28, 2011, to Ryan and Megan Albright.

Despite his fight with neuroblastoma, Luke remained true to his core: generous, loving, outgoing, and spirited. When he was feeling good, he would spend his time outside, riding his bike and playing with friends. If the weather wasn't up to par, you could find Luke enjoying his time with video games. If not that, then you could see him catching up on his favorites, anything Spiderman or Star Wars. One who loved to give, Luke commonly bought gifts for his friends and made sure to prioritize spending time with his family.

Luke leaves behind to pay forward his love, his parents, Ryan and Megan Albright; older brother Liam Albright; grandparents Alan and Noreen (nee Doyle) Albright and William Collins and Deanna Klosinski. He is also survived by aunts and uncles, Rory and Mandy Albright, Andrew and Kristen Albright, Nora and Chris Zabik, and Edward and Meghan Collins; cousins Breana, Grant, Evie, Sonny, Rose, Clara, Bianca, Ivan, and Marcus; his furry friends Molly, Pete, Frank, Giuseppe and most especially Oppa; and all of his friends at Westerly Elementary and the Bay Village Schools. Greeting Luke on the other side was his grandmother Leanne (nee Challenger) Collins.

Luke fought his battle with neuroblastoma with a level of courage that can rival the strongest of us in this room. Even though Luke's journey was short, the love he left will be everlasting and the light he made will continue to burn bright. To his family, I pray for peace over time because I know this is a pain that one can never rid themselves of.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FORMER SENATOR PILAR DIAZ CRUZ LUJAN

### HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2022*

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of former

Senator Pilar Diaz Cruz Lujan. Senator Lujan was an esteemed leader, devoted educator, and tireless advocate for the People of Guam. Our community will fondly remember her as a visionary whose resilience, resolve, and commitment to others transformed both the face and future of our island.

Across a lifetime of service, Senator Lujan persisted in her pursuit of an improved quality of life for all who call our island home. After graduating from George Washington High School in 1951, Senator Lujan earned a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education, a Juris Doctor, a master's degree in Elementary School Administration, an Education Specialist degree in General School Administration, and license as an Educational Research Consultant—all of which were fundamental to the work she realized over the years. Navigating an extensive career within Guam's education system, Senator Lujan served as a teacher, principal of Wettengel Elementary School, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Associate Superintendent, Acting Director of Education, and Chairwoman of Guam's first-ever Board of Education. Through these roles she spearheaded vital initiatives and reinvestment into CHamoru language learning and culture programs that shape the experiences of our youth to this very day. Moreover, her added contributions as a CHamoru Language Instructor at the Univer-

sity of Guam, translator for the Guam Constitution, and CHamoru newscaster with Guam's Public Broadcasting Radio Station (KGTF) have strengthened our collective mission to revitalize and preserve our native tongue.

With an unwavering passion for the people and determination to make a difference, Senator Lujan carried her fight for equity and justice into the realm of politics. Elected to serve 6 consecutive terms in the Guam Legislature, she championed policies that have meaningfully elevated our institutions and continue to inform generations of leaders. Most notably, her achievements include the establishment of the Supreme Court of Guam, Jury and Appointed Counsel Trust Funds, Judicial Building Fund to construct the Guam Judicial Center, and the Crime Victims Bill of Rights as well as the enactment of the Child Protective and Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Acts and Reactivation of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Commission. Further, she testified in front of the Federal War Claims Commission to advance CHamoru WWII survivor restitution and served as Chair of our Senatorial Committees on Judiciary and Criminal Justice, Corrections, Economic Development, Housing and Community Development, Federal & Foreign Affairs, and Health, Welfare and Ecology. Outside of her elected and appointed duties, however, Senator Lujan also made it a point

to dedicate her knowledge, tools, and perspective to countless organizations such as the Salvation Army, Democratic Party of Guam, Soroptimist International of Guam, Guam Women's Issues Task Force, International Women's Club of Guam, Phi Delta Kappa Society, and Catholic Daughters of America. By 2015, she was awarded the prestigious Hustisia Award in recognition of her decades of distinguished service.

Senator Lujan is an icon of public service and CHamoru excellence who continues to inspire many throughout our island to similarly rise in response to the needs of one's community. As part of the Greatest Generation of Guam, she admirably emerged as an agent of change and channeled a war-inflicted history of despair into unyielding purpose, and I join the People of Guam in remembering and celebrating her life and legacy of empowering CHamoru voices while promoting good governance and uncompromising justice. My family and I wish to extend our hearts and prayers for Senator Pilar Diaz Cruz Lujan, her family, and friends. Though Senator Lujan will be deeply missed, she will be welcomed at the Heavenly Gates by her dear husband, Senator Frank G. Lujan, daughter, Justice Monessa Lujan, parents, and siblings, and her love and memories will forever remain in the hearts of the People of Guam.